



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 33** HLS 09RS 51
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 28, 2009 6:37 PM	Author: LEGER
Dept./Agy.: Executive/Executive Office	
Subject: Louisiana Witness Protection Services Board	Analyst: Evan Brasseaux

CRIMINAL/PROCESS

EG INCREASE GF EX See Note

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Enacts the Witness Protection Services Act

The proposed legislation creates the Louisiana Witness Protection Services Board within the office of the governor. The board shall be comprised of nine members and shall be domiciled in East Baton Rouge Parish. Members, other than the secretaries or their designees, or employees of the state, may receive a per diem of seventy-five dollars for each day spent in actual attendance of meetings of the board as well as a mileage allowance. The board may employ an executive director and such other personnel as it deems necessary. The board may retain its own counsel to advise and assist it. The board may incur all necessary and proper expenses. The board shall oversee the state’s witness protection services program and coordinate the efforts of state and local law enforcement agencies to protect the health, safety, and welfare or immediate family members of witnesses, including but not limited to the administration and approval of funding for witness protection services. The provisions of this Act shall be implemented to the extent that funds have been appropriated by the legislature or made available through grants or federal funds.

EXPENDITURES	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation creates the Louisiana Witness Protection Services Board to be established within the office of the governor and domiciled in East Baton Rouge Parish. The governor’s office will require the addition of three positions including an executive director, a liaison officer (required by legislation), and an administrative assistant at a cost of \$254,800 (including benefits) in FY 10. Additional costs related to the creation of the board include \$100,000 for professional services (legal), \$75,000 for operating services, and \$90,000 for acquisitions in FY 10. The total cost of the board expenses for FY 10 would be approximately \$520,000 with anticipated growth of 4% in subsequent fiscal years with all expenditure categories other than acquisitions which would fall significantly after FY 10.

The legislation will also result in a significant but indeterminable increase in state general fund (or federal funds if available) expenditures and a reduction in local expenditures related to funding witness protection costs. While the LFO cannot determine the future annual costs of reimbursing prosecuting attorneys for these costs, a survey of East Baton Rouge, Jefferson and Orleans Parish has shown total expenditures of over \$300,000 were realized in the previous year which were funded with monies from the district attorney’s office or the parish or a combination of both. Therefore, including additional costs on a statewide basis will likely result in additional annual costs to reimburse the prosecuting attorney for any witness protection related costs. These costs will be funded with SGF which will result in a corresponding decrease in local funds which are currently utilized for these expenses.

NOTE: The provisions of this Act shall be implemented to the extent that funds have been appropriated by the legislature or made available through grants or federal funds.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate

☒ 13.5.1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

☐ 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change

Dual Referral Rules

House

☐ 6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

☐ 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease

H. Gordon Monk
Legislative Fiscal Officer